

wanted in Afgha-
nkong, Japan, La-
LF & Co.,
Merchants, 1140
London, England.

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. and O. steamer *Galleo*, will leave the next American mail, left San Francisco on the 16th December, and is due here on the 21st instant.

The O. and O. steamer *Balgie*, with the succeeding American mail, left San Francisco on the 28th December, and may be expected to arrive here on or about the 27th instant.

STRAHMERS EXPECTED.

The O. S. B. Co.'s steamer *Elysees*, from London, left Singapore on the morning of the 8th, and may be expected here on or about the 16th instant.

The O. S. B. Co.'s steamer *Orestes*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 9th, and may be expected here on or about the 16th instant.

The Shire Line steamer *Fideltity*, from London, left Singapore on the 9th, and may be expected here on or about the 16th instant.

The N. I. S. Co.'s steamer *Athena*, left Batavia on the 1st, and may be expected here on or about the 17th instant.

The E. & A. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Catfish*, sailed from Sydney on the 4th, and is due here on or about the 20th instant.

The D. D. R. steamer *Hesperia* left Singapore on the 14th, and may be expected to arrive here on or about the 22nd instant.

The steamer *Mank* left Sydney on the 12th January, and may be expected to arrive here on or about the 9th February.

The E. & A. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Bacon* will sail from Sydney on the 20th January, and is due here about the 15th February.

POST-OFFICE NOTICES.

The authorised List of Mails issued in connection with this paper is the one published from day to day in the Extra, which is always corrected to a much later hour than that given below.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For Aden and Talancon.—*Per Albany*, to-day, the 18th instant, at NOON.

For Straits Settlements.—*Per Albatross*, to-day, the 18th instant, at 5 P.M.

For Shanghai.—*Per Merito*, to-day, the 16th instant, 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai.—*Per Yangtze*, to-day, the 16th instant, at 8.30 P.M.

For Takao.—*Per Peter der Grosse*, to-day, the 16th instant, at 5 P.M.

For Swatow and Amoy.—*Per Consolidation*, to-day, the 16th instant, at 5 P.M.

For Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cocktown, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, &c., &c.—*Per Memurui*, on Thursday, the 18th instant, at 5.30 P.M.

For Swatow, Amoy and Fookow.—*Per Jerningfung*, on Thursday, the 18th instant, at 5 P.M.

For Nagasaki and Kobe.—*Per Sumida Maru*, on Friday, the 19th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—*Per Bellona*, on Friday, the 19th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Nagasaki and Yokohama.—*Per Sumatra*, on Friday, the 26th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

MAILS BY THE BRITISH PACKET.

The British Contract Packet "POMEY" will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 23rd instant, with Mails to and through the United Kingdom and Europe via Brazil, to the Straits Settlements, B-tavia, Barmah, Ceylon, India, Aden, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar.

N.B.—This Packet carries no mails for the Australasian Colonies.

Twenty-four hours will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

HOURS FOR CLOSING POST OFFICES AND CONTRACT MAILS.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The following hours are observed in closing Mails, &c., by the British Contract Packet:

NOON.—Money Order Office closes.

2.00 P.M.—Receipts of Letters close. Posting of all printed matter and native newspapers.

3.00 P.M.—Mails closed, except for Late Letters.

3.30 P.M.—Letters may be posted with late fee of 10 cents until 10 minutes past.

5.30 P.M.—when the Post Office closes entirely.

8.40 P.M.—Late Letters may be posted on board the packet with late fee of 10 cents, until time of departure.

THE FOREIGN MAIL.

Day before Departure.

5 P.M.—Money Order Office closes. Post Office closes, except the night box, which is always open out of office hours.

Day of Departure.

7 A.M.—Post Office opens.

10 A.M.—Receipts of Letters close. Posting of all printed matter and native newspapers.

11 A.M.—Mails close, except for Late Letters.

11.10 A.M.—Letters may be posted with Late Fee of 10 cents until 10 minutes past.

11.30 A.M.—when the Post Office closes entirely.

11.40 A.M.—Late Letters may be posted on board the packet with Late Fee of 10 Cents until time of departure.

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet "MESENAI" will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 16th instant, with Mails to the United Kingdom, France and places beyond via Naples to Sicily, Genoa, Civita-Cattolica, Ravenna, Bransani, Cagliari, India & Malacca, the Australian Colonies, Aden, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar.

N.B.—Twenty-four hours will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The United States Mail Packet "CITY OF TOKYO," will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 16th instant, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, the United States, Canada, Honolulu, Hong Kong, and other ports.

2.15 P.M.—Receipts will be closed as follows:

2.30 P.M.—Post Office closes, but Correspondence may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 10 cents extra Postage until the time of departure.

MONEY LETTERS.

Public attention is called to the following notice from the Hongkong Postal Guide, Paragraph 60:

"The Post Office declines all responsibility for unsolicited Letters containing Bank Notes &c., and, where Recipients have been notified, they will be required to sign receipts on pain of such letters."

Boxes of letters are sometimes received at the Post Office not sealed, that is to say, the lock is broken and sealing was, but there is no impression of wax.

The attention of boxholders is called to the necessity of carefully sealing such boxes with some recognisable seal, and of sending a child, clerk or messenger to deliver them.

The latter precaution leaves a doubt as to whether the contents of the box ever reached the Post Office; the omission of the former, as to whatever part of them might not have been abstracted for the sake of the Postage Stamp.

LETTERS FOR THE UNITED STATES BY SAILING SHIPS.

When it is desired to forward letters to the United States by a sailing ship which is not notified as carrying a mail, it is only necessary to post the letters in the ordinary way, marked with the name of the ship, and prepaid 10 cents per half ounce each. The Post Office then undertakes the duty of obtaining notice of its departure and forwarding the correspondence. It is recommended that the letters be posted if possible at least one day before the date fixed for sailing.

No responsibility can be accepted by the Post Office for erroneous replies to verbal enquiries or to notices addressed to subordinate officers. The shippers told off to sell stamps should especially not be regarded as liable to give incorrect information. The Postal Office alone is responsible for all points on which such information may be required.

